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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
METRO AUTHORITY

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Director

Determination No. 4 – Dispute Resolutions/METRO Authority Decisions **April 4, 2005**

The METRO Act provides the following recourses regarding disputes between municipalities and providers; and decisions of the METRO Authority:

A. Municipalities and Provider Disputes

1. Section 6 of the METRO Act:

(2) If the parties cannot agree on the requirement of additional information requested by the municipality or the use of additional or different permit terms, either the municipality or the provider shall notify the commission, which shall appoint a mediator within 7 days from the date of the notice to make recommendations within 30 days from the date of the appointment for a resolution of the dispute. The commission may order that the permit be temporarily granted pending resolution of the dispute. If any of the parties are unwilling to comply with the mediator's recommendations, any party to the dispute may within 30 days of receipt of the recommendation request the commission for a review and determination of a resolution of the dispute. Except as provided in subsection (3), the determination by the commission under this subsection shall be issued within 60 days from the date of the request to the commission. The interested parties of the dispute may agree to an extension for up to 30 days of the 60-day requirement under this subsection.

(3) A request for emergency relief under section 18(1) shall have the same time requirements and procedures as under section 203 of the Michigan telecommunications act, 1991 P A 179, MCL 484.2203.

2. Section 7 of the METRO Act:

7. If a provider and 1 or more municipalities are unable to agree on arrangements for coordinating and minimizing the disruption of public rights-of-way, ensuring the efficient construction of facilities, restoring the public rights-of-way after construction or other activities by a provider, protecting the public health, safety, and welfare, and resolving disputes arising under this act, the commission shall appoint a mediator within 7 days from the date of the notice to make recommendations within 30 days from the date of the appointment for resolution of the dispute. If any of the parties are unwilling to comply with the mediator's recommendations, any party to the dispute may within 30 days of receipt of the recommendation request the commission for a review and determination of a resolution of the dispute. The determination by the commission under this section shall be issued within 60 days from the date of the

request to the commission. The commission shall issue its determination within 15 days from the date of the request if a municipality demonstrates that the public health, safety, and welfare require a determination before the expiration of the 60 days. The interested parties to the dispute may agree to an extension for up to 30 days of the 60-day requirement under this section.

B. METRO Authority Decisions

Section 17 of the METRO Act:

17. A decision or assessment of the authority is subject to a de novo review by the commission upon the request of an interested person. A decision or order of the commission issued under this act is subject to review as provided under section 26 of 1909 PA 300, MCL 462.26.